

County Snapshot

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El Dorado County comprises 1,805 square miles with over half in national forests and recreation areas. It is the home of the Gold Rush mining centers that transformed California 150 years ago. Sacramento County borders on the west and the eastern boundary is high in the Sierra Nevada Mountains overlooking Lake Tahoe.

Much of the growth in El Dorado County is a result of its proximity to the Sacramento region. By the year 2020, El Dorado County's population is projected to reach 256,000.

The 1999 annual average civilian labor force for El Dorado County was 81,200 with an unemployment rate of 3.8 percent. This is significantly lower than the state's unemployment rate of 5.2 percent.

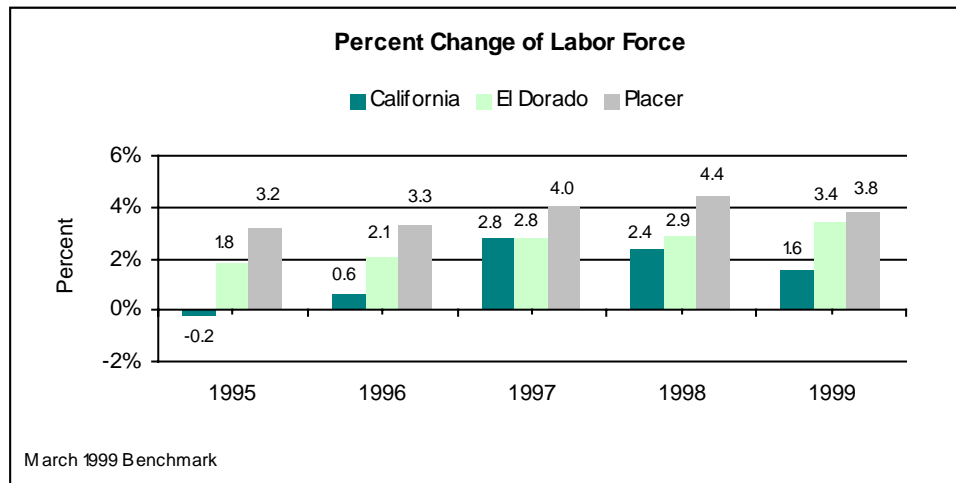
Services is the largest industry in the county accounting for 33 percent of the total employment. Other significant industry sectors are retail trade at 23 percent and government at 23 percent. These industries are expected to continue to support the area's future economic environment.

The services industry is also a significant economic factor for El Dorado because the seven-year projected growth rate is 32.6 percent. Business services, health services and amusement services combined account for more than half the growth in this industry. Retail trade is expected to grow 19.3 percent adding 1,600 jobs and the government sector is projected to grow 16.5 percent adding 1,300 jobs with the greatest concentration in local government, specifically local education.

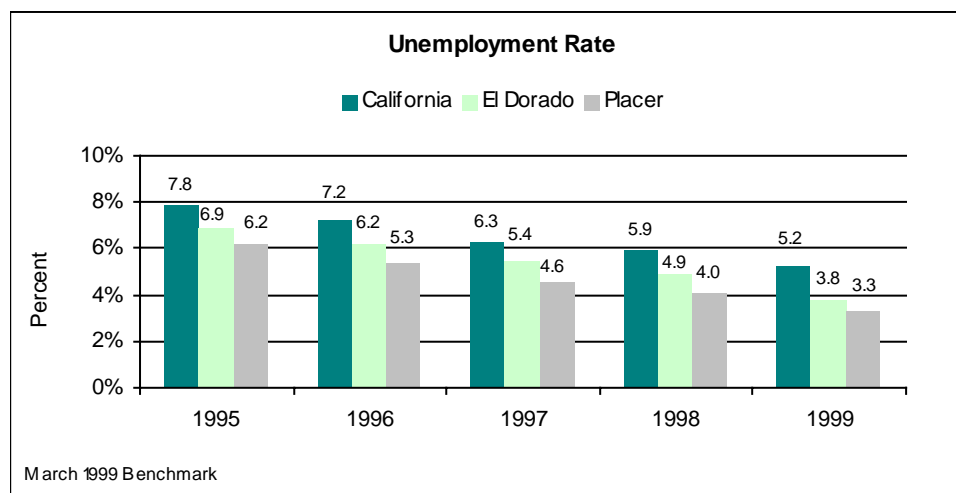
El Dorado County is part of the Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area (El Dorado, Placer and Sacramento counties) and is part of the Golden Sierra Consortium (Alpine, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer and Sierra counties). El Dorado County's labor market conditions have been steadily improving over the last five years. The county continues to record job growth and lower unemployment rates.

LABOR FORCE

Since 1995, El Dorado County has sustained a growth trend in the civilian labor force each year with the greatest year over increase of 3.4 percent occurring in 1999. Cumulative growth for this period in El Dorado County is 11.7 percent. Neighboring Placer County had the greatest year over increase of labor force with 4.4 percent in 1998 and the state recorded its greatest increase in 1997 with 2.8 percent.

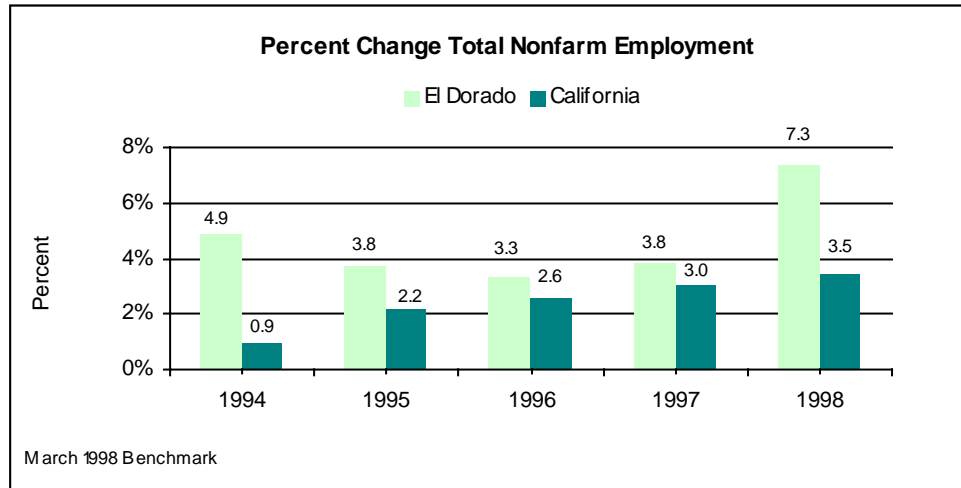


Since 1995, unemployment rates have declined for El Dorado and neighboring Placer County indicative of the employment opportunities in the area. For El Dorado County, the annual average unemployment rate dropped 3.1 percentage points from a high of 6.9 percent in 1995 to 3.8 percent in 1999.

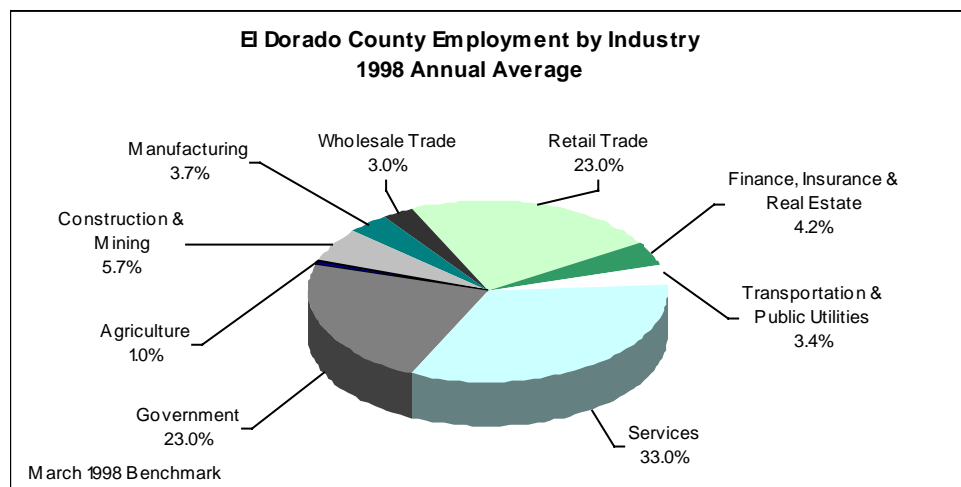


INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

Job growth creates opportunity and is considered to be one measure of economic health. El Dorado County's nonfarm wage and salary employment had the greatest job growth in 1998 with 7.3 percent or 2,600 jobs. The bulk of this growth occurred in the engineering and management category of the services sector. Total nonfarm employment has shown steady growth at the state level over this period with the greatest increase of 3.5 percent in 1998.



In 1998, El Dorado County's employment was dominated by the services, retail trade and government sectors. Services sector accounted for one-third of the employment. During the 1995 – 2002 forecast period, it is expected that 67 percent of the job growth in the county will also be in these industries.



OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Demographic trends, shifts in demands for products or services, technological innovations and the way business is conducted are some of the variables that drive employment in an occupation up or down. Also, occupations which have large employment and have high turnover rates generally provide the most job openings. El Dorado County is projected to have more employment opportunities in these larger high turnover occupations.

Associated Occupations	SERVICES 1995-2002 Projected Growth 32.6%
	Amusement, Recreation Attendants – 160 job openings. Perform a variety of duties at amusement or recreation facilities. Schedule the use of facilities and allocate equipment to participants of sporting events or recreational pursuits, collect fees for games played, operate carnival rides and amusement concessions. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.35
	General Managers, Top Executives – 110 job openings. Include both top and mid-level managers whose duties and responsibilities are too diverse and general in nature to be classified in any functional or line area of management and administration. Work Experience, plus a Bachelor's Degree or higher. Median Hourly Wage - \$29.71
	Maintenance Repairers, General Utility – 110 job openings. Perform work involving two or more maintenance skills to keep the machines, mechanical equipment, and/or structure of an establishment in repair. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.94
	Nurse Aides, Orderlies, Attendants – 100 job openings. Help care for physically or mentally ill, injured, disabled, or infirm individuals confined to hospitals and residential care facilities. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.61
	Registered Nurses – 90 job openings. Provide direct bedside care and assist physicians with examinations, chart the conditions of patients, give medication, and administer treatment as ordered by the doctor. May supervise auxiliary nursing personnel. Associate Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$23.02
Associated Occupations	RETAIL TRADE 1995-2002 Projected Growth 19.3%
	Cashiers – 280 job openings. Handle cash and credit payments, make change, give receipts, account for all payments, and perform related clerical duties. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$ 7.44
	Salespersons, Retail – 270 job openings. Get the customer interested by describing the merchandise and showing how it is used. May also order merchandise, stock shelves, mark price tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.05
	Waiter and Waitresses – 180 job openings. Serve food and drink to customers. Duties may include explanation about how the meal is prepared, wine recommendations or simple food preparation at the table. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.05
	First-Line Supervisor / Manager - Sales – 90 job openings. Directly supervise and coordinate activities of marketing, sales, and related workers. May perform management functions, such as budgeting, accounting, marketing, and personnel work. Work Experience. Median Hourly Wage - \$15.60
	Food Preparation Workers - 70 job openings. Perform a variety of food preparation duties, such as preparing cold foods and maintaining and cleaning kitchen work areas, equipment, and utensils. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.73
Associated Occupations	GOVERNMENT 1995-2002 Projected Growth 16.5%
	Fire Fighters – 50 job openings. Control and extinguish fires, protect life and property, maintain equipment as employees of city township, State or Federal Government. Long-term on-the job training. Median Hourly Wage-\$16.32
	Corrections Officers and Jailers – 40 job openings. Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$20.01
	Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs – 30 job openings. Enforce law and order in rural or unincorporated districts or serve legal processes of courts. May patrol courthouse, guard court or grand jury, or escort defendants. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$13.94
	Police Patrol Officers – 20 job openings. Maintain order, enforce laws and ordinances, protect life and property in an assigned patrol district or beat; investigate accidents; apprehend, arrest and process prisoners; and give evidence in court. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$22.12
	General Managers, Top Executives – 10 job openings. Include both top and mid-level managers whose duties and responsibilities are too diverse and general in nature to be classified in any functional or line area of management and administration. Work Experience, plus a Bachelor's Degree or higher. Median Hourly Wage - \$29.71

This **County Snapshot** is a product of:
State of California
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Labor Market Information Division
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